



Minutes

Thursday, 7 February 2019: Patuxent Woods Drive, Room 337
Columbia, Maryland 21046

ATTENDANCE

COMMISSION MEMBERS: Jonathan Branch, Janice Agazio, Bob Moore, Bob Lowell, Bob Gillette, Michael Blum, Craig Porterfield, Howard T. Mooney (Chair HCCVMF), Lisa Terry, Greg Joilissaint

GUESTS: Bob Berlett, Chris Yates, Yale Stenzler, John Way, Tom Glenn, Staci Harrison, Jennifer Anthony (Lorien Health), Ed Hall (Commander, American Legion Post 156), Christine Chamberlain, Bob Chew, Ronna Corman-Chew (The Bob and Ronna Group), Nathan Jones (MDVA-VSO), David Youngman (District 5 Council member)

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by Howard. Lisa recognized the guests who were present. Robert introduced Councilman Youngman who made a short statement. Guests Jennifer Anthony (Retired Air Force) and Christine Chamberlain also introduced themselves and made short statements. Howard called for consideration of the January minutes. The minutes were read and approved. Craig made the motion. Janice seconded it.

Howard reminded the commission of upcoming meeting dates. Next meeting is on Thursday, March 7. In lieu of April meeting, everyone is asked to attend/volunteer at the Veteran Resource Fair on April 8 at Howard Community College. There is also a meeting on Thursday, 2 May.

Lisa reviewed the WWII Medal presentation to retired Marine, Mr. Joe at Harmony Hall. It was covered by news media. Lisa also said that Governor Hogan announced that 2019 is the Year of the Veteran.

Craig summed up certification for Veterans Owned Businesses.

Lisa summed up the planning process for the Veterans Resource Fair. Entertainment, free health screening, and food would be available. C.E. Ball would also like his Marching Our Veterans back to work suit giveaway to be part of the fair. Keynotes suggested would be Lt Gov Rutherford, Delegate Warren Miller, Gen Linda Singh (Maryland National Guard), Bill Krauss, Bill Owens. John suggested wrestler Rick Savage. Howard announced that we have 3 vacancies on the commission now. Allison's position is now open. Howard suggested that he wanted to make the process as expedient as possible.

Ed gave a summary of activities that the Joint Military Council is involved in. Including the flag retirement ceremony and parade planning. Also noted that Post 156 provided support to Coast Guard members who were affected by the shutdown. He also noted that the Honor Flight program is still very active.

Bob Gillette gave a very detailed presentation regarding the current status of the monument. The park where the monument will be located will be named for Lt. Vivian Bailey. He also explained fundraising methods.

Bob and Ronna made a detailed presentation regarding the Veterans Friendly Business initiative. The initial Veterans Friendly Business magazine was distributed to the committee.

Lisa and Bob M. attended the inaugural Frederick County Veterans Advisory Council. Lisa offered a summary of the meeting.

Bob M. also gave a summation of the Veterans in-school program. Bob L. will give a brief presentation regarding the Gulf War to Mount Hebron High School's History Club. Howard stated that the County Executive and County Council members are always invited to the commission meetings.

Robert sent out the County Executive transition team's report which included growth for the Office of Veterans and Military Families.

Nathan (MDVA) offered a summary of disability benefits for Vietnam veterans exposed to Agent Orange.

County Executive Ball will be touring Fort Meade with the Garrison Commander in March.

Howard called for any other comments from members or guests. Lisa mentioned opportunities in Mental Health first aid training.

Mike moved that the meeting be adjourned. Unanimously approved.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm by Howard

Submitted by Jonathan K. Branch